AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-9. **(Cancelled)**

10. **(Currently amended)** A method for the treatment and care of primary and secondary tumors by inhibiting angiogenesis which comprises applying at the tumor site a biomaterial comprised of:

(a) a benzyl ester of hyaluronic acid, or

(b) a cross-linked ~~derivative of~~ hyaluronic acid having ~~wherein the~~ carboxy groups ~~of hyaluronic acid are~~ cross-linked to ~~the~~ hydroxyl groups of the same hyaluronic acid molecule or a different hyaluronic acid molecule,

wherein said biomaterial inhibits angiogenic processes related to vascularization.

11. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 10 wherein said hyaluronic acid is in association with other natural, synthetic and/or semisynthetic biopolymers.

12. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 11, wherein the natural biopolymer is selected from the group consisting of collagen, cellulose, polysaccharides, chitin, chitosan, pectins, agar, gellan and alginic acid.

13. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 11, wherein the synthetic biopolymer is selected from the group consisting of polylactic acid (PLA), polyglycolic acid (PGA), polyurethanes and polysulphonic resins.

14. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 11, wherein the semisynthetic biopolymer is selected from the group consisting of collagen cross-linked with aldehydes, diamine and gellan.

15. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 10 wherein the biomaterial further comprises at least one pharmacologically active substance.

16. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 15, wherein the pharmacologically active substance is selected from the group consisting of fluorouracil, methotrexate, cis-platinum, carboplatin, oxaliplatin, ethopoxide, cyclophosphamide, vincristine, and doxorubicin.

17. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to any one of claims 10-16 wherein the

biomaterial is in the form of a non-woven felt, sponge, microsphere, film or membrane and/or other three-dimensional structure.

18. **(Previously Presented)** A method for the treatment and care of primary and secondary tumors by inhibiting angiogenesis which comprises applying at the tumor site a biomaterial comprised of a benzyl ester of hyaluronic acid wherein said hyaluronic acid is at least 85% benzyl esterified, and wherein said biomaterial inhibits angiogenic processes related to vascularization.

19. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 18, wherein said hyaluronic acid is at least 90% benzyl esterifed.

20. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 18, wherein said hyaluronic acid is at least 95% benzyl esterified.

21. **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 18, wherein said hyaluronic acid is 100% benzyl esterified.

22. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 18 wherein said hyaluronic acid is in association with other natural, synthetic and/or semisynthetic biopolymers.

23. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 22, wherein the natural biopolymer is selected from the group consisting of collagen, cellulose, polysaccharides, chitin, chitosan, pectins, agar, gellan and alginic acid.

24. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 22, wherein the synthetic biopolymer is selected from the group consisting of polylactic acid (PLA), polyglycolic acid (PGA), polyurethanes and polysulphonic resins.

25. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 22, wherein the semisynthetic biopolymer is selected from the group consisting of collagen cross-linked with aldehydes, diamine and gellan.

26. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 18 wherein the biomaterial further comprises with at least one pharmacologically active substance.

27. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 26, wherein the pharmacologically active substance is selected from the group consisting of fluorouracil, methotrexate, cis-platinum, carboplatin, oxaliplatin, ethopoxide, cyclophosphamide, vincristine, and doxorubicin.

28. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to any one of claims 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 or 27 wherein the biomaterial is in the form of at least one member selected from the group consisting of a non-woven felt, sponge, microsphere, film and membrane.

29. (**Previously Presented**) The method according to claim 10, wherein said biomaterial is applied to the tumor site by filling a cavity resulting from the surgical removal of a tumor.

30. (**Previously Presented**) The method according to claim 18, wherein said biomaterial is applied to the tumor site by filling a cavity resulting from the surgical removal of a tumor.